Message Text

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14

ACTION PM-04

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2902

SECDEF

SECCOMMERCE

INFO COMELEVEN SAN DIEGO

BROOK ARMY MED CENTER, FT. SAM HOUSTON

USCINCSO

DIA

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 6005

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL, BEXP, GT

SUBJ: GUATEMALAN ARMY VISIT TO US MILITARY AND CIVILIAN HOSPITALS

REF: A) USDAO GUATEMALA 161630Z AUGUST 76

B) SECDEF 232124Z AUGUST 76

1. AT LUNCHEON TODAY IN HONOR OF CINCSO, GENERAL MENDOZA TOLD MY STAFF THAT PRESIDENT LAUGERUD UNABLE UNDERSTAND WHY US MILITARY HOSPITALS UNWILLING RECEIVE GUATEMALAN ARMY MEDICAL AND ENGINEERING TEAM CHARGED WITH PLANNING NEW GUATEMALAN MILITARY HOSPITAL. DATT EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED WORD FROM OSD THAT THEREWAS INSUFFICIENT TIME FOR PLANNING VISIT PROPOSED FOR SEPTEMBER 5-12 AND THAT IT SHOULD THEREFORE BE POSTPONSED TO LATER DATE. DATT HAD SO INFORMED ARMY COS IN LETTER AUGUST 24. MENDOZA SAID HE WOULD SEE COS AFTERNOON AUGUST 25 AND TRY TO EXPLAIN.

2. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, COL. MEJIA, G-4, TOLD DATT THAT IN VIEW USG ANSWER GUATEMALAN TEAM WOULD TRAVEL AS SCHEDULED BUT WOULD VISIT ONLY CIVILIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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HOSPITALS. WE UNDERSTNAD THEY HAVE ANDERSON MEDICAL

CENTER AND ST. LUKE'S IN HOUSTON, TEXAS IN MIND. JOHN PFLUEGER OF PFLUEGER ARCHITECTS, 580 MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO HAS CABLED COMMERCIAL ATTACHE INDICATING AWARENESS OF VISIT AND REQUESTING EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING STOPS AT BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN FACILITIES ON COMMERCIAL GROUNDS. REPRESENTATIVES OF GREENHORN AND O'MEARA, ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS, RIVERDALE, MARYLAND, ARE PRESENTLY IN GUATEMALA IN CONNECTION WITH MILITARY HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND HAVE REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH COS.

3. IN LIGHT OF EXPRESSED INTEREST OF PRESIDENT OF GUATEMALA, ON ONE HAND, AND US FIRMS, ON THE OTHER, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND DOD RECONSIDER ITS INABILITY SCHEDULE VISITS TO US MILITARY HOSPITALS SEPTEMBER 5-11. IF PARTICULAR HOSPITALS UNSUITABLE OR INCONVENIENT, OTHERS WHICH WERE PROPOSED IN REF B MAY BE SUBSTITUTED; THE IMPORTANT POINT IS NOT SPECIFIC SITES BUT WILLINGNESS USG HOST VISIT BY GOG REPRESENTATIVES AT THEIR EXPENSE. ANDREWS

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